11

CHICKASAHAY
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

MERIDIAN, MISS.:
PRINTED AT THE NEWS OFFICE.
1886.

MINUTES

OF

CHICKASAHAY ASSOCIATION

Quitman, Miss., Sept. 24, 1886.

The Eleventh Annual Session of Chickasahay Baptist Association was held with the Church at Quitman, beginning September 24, 1886. After leading in devotional exercises, Elder J. W. Bozeman, the Moderator, called the Association to order at 10½ o'clock a. m., and requested Brothers A. F. McGhee and W. A. McComb, to read the church letters.

The churches composing the Association were represented as follows:

MERIDIAN—J. W. Bozeman, D. D., W. L. Goldsmith, F. C. McGhee, H. J. Fry.

BETHLEHEM—Not represented.

ENTERPRISE—A. F. McGhee, M. W. Buckley, S. O. Y. Ray.

QUITMAN—W. D. Northrup, C. R. Harris, Dr. W. J. McNair.

DESOTO—J. J. F. Heath, J. O. McQuaig.

SHUBUTA—A. J. Gray, J. M. Phillips, Geo. L. Donald.

SALEM (Waynesboro)—W. B. Robinson.

NEW HOPE—J. L. Gray, Sr.

CONCORD—By letter.

CLEAR CREEK—W. Z. West, J. O. Crawford.

YELLOW CREEK—W. D. Watson, T. J. Langley.

BIG CREEK—Not represented.

BUCKATUNNA—Joseph Davis.

STATE LINE—W. L. Etheredge.

SANDERSVILLE—A. McDaniel.

ELLISVILLE—C. A. Hopson.

HEIDELBERG—W. M. Sprinkel.

ESTABUTCHIE—W. A. McComb.

HATTIESBURG—By Letter.

AUGUSTA—J. N. McCoy.

The Moderator announced as Finance Committee, M. W. Buckley, W. Z. West; Committee on Devotional Exercises, Brother W. M. Sprinkel and the delegates from Quitman Church.

Petitionary letters were received as follows: Vossburg Church, delegates, W. P. Smith, L. T. Spann; Fairfield, J. W. Martin, T. J.

Woodward; Mt. Zion, G. W. Marshall, W. J. Busby. Each of the churches was admitted to membership in the Association by a unanimous vote, and the delegates were welcomed by the Moderator.

The Moderator announced the election of officers as next in order, and appointed W. L. Goldsmith and C. A. Hopson tellers. After taking the ballot, the tellers announced the unanimous election of Elder J. W. Bozeman, as Moderator, and Frank C. McGhee, Clerk and Treasurer.

Corresponding Messengers were called for and the following were received and welcomed to seats:

Bethlehem Association, J. L. Williams.

General Association, F. D. Baars.

The following were appointed Corresponding Messengers by the Moderator:

To Ebenezer Association, J. N. McCoy, S. O. Y. Ray; Bethlehem, A. F. McGhee, M. W. Buckley; Choctaw, W. L. Goldsmith; Liberty, W. D. Northrup; Salem, W. M. Sprinkel, W. P. Smith; Mt. Pisgah, ————; Gulf Coast, J. W. Bozeman, Joe. Davis; Pearl Leaf, W. A. McComb; General Association, A. F. McGhee, J. W. Bozeman, S. O. Y. Ray, W. L. Goldsmith, J. M. Phillips; Columbus, J. W. Bozeman, F. C. McGhee.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint the usual committees and announce the same at the afternoon session.

A motion to adjourn till 3 o'clock p. m. was adopted, and after prayer by Elder S. O. Y. Ray, the Moderator announced the Association adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION—FIRST DAY.

The Association was called to order at 3 o'clock, and after devotional exercises proceeded to business. Committees were announced as follows:

Education, A. F. McGhee, F. D. Baars.

State Missions, S. O. Y. Ray, W. P. Smith, J. O. Crawford.

Home and Foreign Missions, Joe Davis, J. W. Martin, J. O. McQuaig.

Sunday Schools, W. L. Goldsmith, G. W. Marshall, W. D. Watson.

State of the Churches, C. A. Hopson, W. A. McComb.

Nominations, J. N. McCoy, J. J. F. Heath, W. L. Etheredge.

Apportionment, J. M. Phillips, T. J. Langley.

Sustentation, T. J. Woodward, A. J. Gray, W. J. Busby.

Queries, W. L. Etheredge, J. M. Phillips, W. L. Goldsmith.

On motion of Joe Davis, the Moderator appointed a Committee on Temperance Work, composed of the following: W. M. Sprinkel, H. J. Fry, J. L. Gray, W. D. Turner.

A suggestion that the brethren present report in regard to spiritual

work within the bounds of the Association met with a response from a number who gave most encouraging reports from the work and from the revivals of religion in their own churches.

PROPOSED HIGH SCHOOL.

Brother S. O. Y. Ray, for the committee appointed at the last session of the Association to take necessary action in locating a High School on the line of the New Orleans and Northeastern railroad within our bounds, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee on the establishment of a High School make the following report:

After canvassing the subject carefully, we decided that Enterprise was the best place for the school; but, on account of circumstances over which we had no control, the work was abandoned for the time. Your Committee are profoundly impressed with the importance of having such a school in Southeast Mississippi. We can establish and maintain it if we will only make the necessary effort. Steps should be taken at once for the building of such an institution among us.

S. O. Y. RAY,
W. M. SPRINKEL,
For Committee.

On motion, the Committee was continued as at present constituted, with full power to act in the premises as they may deem best in the location and establishment of the school. The following are the members or the committee: S. O. Y. Ray, J. G. Wellborn, T. J. Hardy, W. M. Sprinkel, C. L. Hatch.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported that Elder J. W. Bozeman, D. D., would preach the Introductory Sermon this evening at 7½ o'clock.

After religious exercises, on motion, the Association adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

At 7½ o'clock p. m., according to appointment, Elder J. W. Bozeman preached a sound, practical and scholarly sermon to a large and attentive congregation.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 25TH.

The Association met at 9 o'clock a. m. pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises were led by the Moderator.

Several additional delegates were present. Their names appear in the list of representatives from the churches.

W. D. Turner, as a duly chosen delegate, presented a letter from the church at Laurel, petitioning for membership in the Association. On motion the church was received by a unanimous vote, and Brother Turner was suitably welcomed as a delegate by the Moderator.

The following named brethren were received from their respective bodies and welcomed to seats as messengers:

Elder L. M. Stone, from Columbus Association.

Elder J. B. Gambrell, from the Convention Board.

Elders C. M. Partin, W. K. Red, G. W. Knight, J. E. Phillips and Brother Benjamin Thigpen, from Salem Association.

The report of the Committee on Sustentation was submitted by Brother T. J. Woodward, and adopted.

A message was received through Elder J. B. Gambrell from the State Convention of the W. C. T. U. in session at Jackson, which, after being read, was referred to the Committee on Temperance Work.

The report of Elder S. O. Y. Ray, as Missionary under appointment of the Convention Board within the bounds of this Association, was received, and after commendation of Brother Ray's work by Brethren Gambrell, Davis, Phillips, Baars, and Stone, the report was adopted.

The following submitted by the Committee on Nominations, after being amended as to place of meeting from Hattiesburg to Heidelberg, was adopted:

"Your Committee submit the following:

We recommend that Elder L. E. Hall preach the Introductory Sermon at our next meeting.

That the next session be held with the church at Heidelberg.

That the following constitute the standing committee on Ministerial Education: S. O. Y. Ray, W. H. Patton, N. C. Hill, W. H. Hardy, J. P. Seabrook, T. B. Bonner; and that the following be our delegates to the next State Convention: W. H. Hardy, M. W. Buckley, J. M. Phillips, James F. Parker, W. M. Sprinkel, Geo. L. Donald, Joe Davis, W. Z. West J. W. Bozeman.

Time of our next meeting: Friday before the last Sunday in September 1887.

Submitted.

J. N. McCOY,
W. L. ETHEREDGE,
Committee.

Committee on Devotional Exercises announced the following:

That Elder L. M. Stone preach to-night at 8½ o'clock; Elder J. B. Gambrell to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m., and that Elder J. M. Phillips address the Sunday School to-morrow morning.

Brother A. F. McGhee, on behalf of the Committee on Education, submitted the report of the Committee, which, after addresses by Elders Gambrell and Stone, was unanimously adopted.

After singing and prayer, adjourned to 3 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION—SECOND DAY.

At 3'clock p. m., the Association was called to order by the Moderator, and, after the usual religious exercises, proceeded to business.

The following committees submitted their reports, all of which were adopted, some of them giving rise to interesting discussions:

On Sunday Schools.
On Finance.
On the State of the Churches.
On Apportionment.
On Temperance Work.
On Missions.
On Home and Foreign Missions.

Brother Benjamin Thigpen reported as to the progress of the Indian Mission under the auspices of the General Association. The report was encouraging, and the outlook for much good being done among the Indians in East Mississippi is bright and promising.

The Committee on Queries submitted the following report on the query sent up from Fairfield Church:

"Your Committee on Queries report that they find a query sent up from Fairfield Church to this effect: "Is not a church member out of order when he requests a letter of dismission because he dissents from the majority rule in the church when a certain measure or resolution is passed? And can the church consistently grant such a member a letter?" We answer that such member *is* out of order and that the church *can not* consistently grant such a member a letter.

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. ETHEREDGE, Chairman.

The following substitute was offered for the report and was adopted in lieu thereof:

WHEREAS, This Association does not desire to interfere in any matters concerning the policy of the individual churches, believing that in general all differences should be settled among the members thereof, and having no authority to settle such differences, therefore,

Resolved, That the query from Fairfield Church be referred back to that church with the request that the members decide the question for themselves, this Association having no official data upon which to form a judgment.

The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are cordially tendered the good people of Quitman for their unbounded hospitality; and to the M. & O. and N. O. & N. E. railroads for their courtesy in granting reduced rates of transportation to the delegates.

The delegates and visitors then joined in singing a hymn of praise, the parting hand was extended, and the Association adjourned to meet with the church at Heidelberg, Miss., on Friday before the last Sunday in September, 1887.

J. W. BOZEMAN, MODERATOR.

FRANK C. McGHEE, CLERK.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

REPORT ON HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home and Foreign Missions beg leave to report:

While your committee is not prepared to make a full report of all the work of missions, they submit the following: Out of the great number of Baptists in the United States, and other countries, only about one-tenth of them are alive to the great commission of our Lord—"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." This should not be so with those that profess to love the Lord Jesus. We are sorry that our denomination falls so far short of their duty to God and His cause. While our Association is doing a good work in all her ways of working, yet there is much to be done. It will require time to bring all the people to contribute regularly to all the objects which are to come before them.

We would suggest, with emphasis, that this Association, through its delegates and pastors, urge the great work more vigorously if possible than ever before, as we find from our missionary laboring under the direction of the State Board of the Convention, and from the Board of the General Association, that there is yet much destitution and work for them to do, and more laborers are needed in the field; and more money to pay for all this work. Under the encouraging reports from different quarters we say, God bless their labors; and brethren let all Christians pay as they pray.

Now as to the foreign mission work: We find that during the year just passed, the number of our missionaries has increased from 21 to 29 men, and from 26 to 30 women. Our present number is 59 American missionaries and 50 native assistants, and the number of baptisms 169; present number of members 1,370, a net gain over last year of only 73. However, the general outlook is good. While we have great opposition in carrying on the work in foreign lands, we must also bear in mind that we have a great God to give strength to our feeble efforts. We find from last year the contributions from the churches to foreign missions have increased also, being $78,000 this year against $71,000 last year. Alabama increased her contribution $1,000 over last year; Tennessee and North Carolina about $1,500 each; Texas $2,000; Mississippi also increased hers a few hundred dollars. We regret that our State did not come up with her sister States in this noble work of our God. We further regret to have to say that the contributions, though increased, fall far short of the great necessities of this Board, and left it in debt near $8,000. For a fuller statement of the work in the different fields and mission stations, we would refer you to the reports of the State Convention Board. Your Committee would recommend that the pastors of the different churches, at least once a year, preach a missionary sermon. Respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH DAVIS, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee beg leave to report, that the letters and reports of the churches show an increased interest in the great work of the Sunday School. That prejudice is fast passing away, and that the morning's dawn has passed into bright day for this glorious cause. We regret however, to note the absence of Sunday Schools in several of our churches, and would prayerfully recommend all churches to organize at once a Sunday School. We would also urge the necessity of placing Sunday School statistics in the Church's Associational letters, that the useful information may be gathered for the encouragement and progress of the cause.

We ask your prayerful attention to the following suggestions and recommendations:

1st. The church should control and govern the Sunday School, elect its

Superintendent, select its literature and take general supervision over its affairs.

2nd. The Pastor should attend the Sunday School, and by his presence and advice, give the great weight of his influence to the cause.

3rd. The Superintendent should be a *live*, active man of God and filled with the Spirit of the Master. He should have a love and tenderness for children, and should be one whom the children can love and respect.

4th. Teachers should be members of the church and endued with the Holy Spirit, to press zealously forward in the good work.

5th. Every member of the church, not incapacitated by age or otherwise, should be in the Sunday School, either as teacher or pupil. Here is a beautiful field, wherin all can work for the blessed Master.

Brethren, let us take renewed courage and go forward, looking ever to the Captain of our salvation, for strength and success.

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. GOLDSMITH.
G. W. MARSHALL.
W. D. WATSON.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

Your Committee on Apportionment beg leave to report as follows:

The Association last year asked the churches to contribute at the rate of one dollar per member to the various objects fostered by our Convention Board. There were 1100 members in the Association last year, hence $1100 were asked for.

Your Committee find on examining the Church Letters that only $732 85 has been contributed during the Associational year just closed, making a shortage of $367 15.

We find that the present total membership of the Association is 1,341. We recommend that the churches again be asked to contribute at the rate of one dollar per member during the coming year, as follows:

State Missions	$ 750 00
Foreign Missions	250 00
Home Missions	100 00
Mississippi College and Industrial Education	200 00
Sustentation	41 00
Total	$ 1,341 00

Your Committee recommend that these amounts be raised on the plan of quarterly collections.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The subject of education stands pre-eminent among the necessities of the age, and demands the careful and best efforts of our denomination. Our educational ministry especially demands the best attention of our Associational and Conventional bodies. Ministers should be educated, that they may be the better able to teach the masses, and the masses should be educated that they may the better learn, and be fitted for a higher appreciation of the duties of life, and the holy teachings of our blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

With becoming pride and pleasure, we refer to those educational institutions within our own State, under the supervision of our denomination. Mississippi College has accomplishsd incalculable good in educating ministers, and sending them out to proclaim the glad tidings to a dying world. This college is an absolute necessity to the Baptist cause, and Mississippi Baptists especially will fall far short of their duty, if they should allow this great source for the advancement of the Master's cause to want for

anything that would contribute to its prosperity. We commend also Shuqualak Female College, under the supervision of Brother L. M. Stone, as a most deserving institution for the education of our girls. That we should have educated women is scarcely less necessary than that our men should be educated, for to them we must look for the training of our children, and the forming of those first impressions upon the minds and hearts of the young, which will shape their lives for time and for eternity.

We earnestly commend, as one of the best sources of educational improvement, that Baptist families should subscribe for Baptist literature, and in this connection we heartily commend the Baptist Record and Southern Baptist as journals which should be placed in the family circle of every Baptist family.

Referring to the subject of establishing a school within our Associational District, we fully appreciate the necessity of such an institution, and as the former committee upon this question has been continued, we earnestly invoke the assistance of every member of the Association, in forwarding this important matter of our educational interests.

Respectfully submitted.

A. F. McGHEE,
F. D. BAARS,
Committee.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK.

The Missionary of this Association has devoted to the work 348 days; traveled 5,784 miles; preached 148 sermons; attended 52 prayer meetings; visited for religious purposes 70 families; baptised 40 persons, (others baptised in connection with his labors 25); received into the churches by letter 37; restored to fellowship 6; organized one church and two Sunday Schools; made 10 addresses; distributed 51 tracts; sold 58 books; obtained 31 subscribers for the Record; collected for State Missions $143 25; collected for church building $564 70; built one house of worship.

The word has been preached in many waste places, and many have been saved. We have enjoyed revivals in all our churches with one exception. We have now good houses of worship at all the towns from Meridian to Hattiesburg except Estabutchie. Strong and vigorous work is being prosecuted along the line of our Association.

NEEDS OF THE WORK IN THE FUTURE.

Several of the new churches organized will not be able to sustain the work commenced without help. Estabutchie, Laurel, Sandersville, Vossburg, must all be aided or suffer materially. Lauderdale Church has had no Pastor this year, nor has State Line, except for a part of the time and then there are other churches on the M. & O. railroad that ought to be aided. The whole field of Southeast Mississippi, (East of N. O. & N. E. railroad) is now open for aid, and Evangalistic labors would be of vast benefit to many churches. Submitted.

S. O. Y. RAY, Missionary.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The work of the State Mission Board has undergone some changes in the last two years, which have greatly enlarged the work and increased the confidence of the denomination, and enlisted the co-operation of the churches as it has not been done before. The policy has been to enlist the churches, to have the Pastors take all the collections, thereby bringing all the work into every church and every home. This is the scriptural way, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be a great blessing to our cause. Every church should see to it, that they have part in the work of Him who has said "Go preach my gospel to every creature." Forty-three Missionaries and Colporteurs have been under employment of the Board

the past year. They have labored 3,384 days; preached 1,229 sermons; made 2,974 visits for religious purposes; have baptised 204 persons; received into churches 88; restored to fellowship 17; organized seven churches and fifteen Sunday Schools; distributed 37,400 tracts; obtained 83 subscribers for the Baptist Record; collected for State missions $6,860 93; collected for church building $3,665 00; have built six houses of worship.

The above are only some of the figures. God only can tell of the vastness of the work; of the issues of life and power that have gone out into the highways and hedges of this world. Many have been saved; thousands have heard the word of life; influences have been put in motion that will always roll on, blessing and saving the souls of men. The work must continue to deepen and broaden until all our borders shall be developed into active workers in the vineyard of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Submitted.

S. O. Y. RAY,
W. P. SMITH,
J. O. CRAWFORD, } Committee.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following:

The following resolutions adopted last year by this Association are hereby commended and reaffirmed:

1st. That all churches should take a high and firm stand against intoxicating liquors as to their manufacture, use or sale.

2d. That it is wrong for any church member to visit saloons, or to sign petitions of others to sell intoxicating liquors, or to go on the bond of liquor sellers.

3d. That the cause of Christ is greatly injured by retaining in our churches whisky drinkers, whisky sellers, visitors of saloons and signers of petitions to sell whisky.

4th. That members who persist in making, or using, or selling intoxicating liquors, in visiting saloons or signing petitions of others to sell such liquors ought to be brought under church discipline.

5th. That in the great contest now going on between the liquor power and morality, law, order and christianity, it behooves every christian to be positively and openly on the right side.

6th. That we recommend to our entire membership to exert every honest influence in their power to arrest the licensed sale of all intoxicants as a beverage.

7th. That the members of this Association be requested to use their influence in securing the introduction of Temperance Text Books into the private and public schools of our State.

Great evil is being done in our churches by members who profess Christ, but are at the same time upholding whisky and saloons in their deadly work of ruining both body and soul. May all professing christians see the evil resulting from this greatest curse to all mankind, and do all in their power to remove saloons from our State. We feel that the legislature of our State deserves the highest commendation for giving the people opportunity to express by the sacred right of the ballot their opinion on local option, and feel that it is creating one of the greatest moral reforms in our State that has ever taken place. We recommend that christian people everywhere, of all denominations, take active measures against all clubs formed for the purpose of defeating the objects of local option.

We are glad to notice the good effect this new law is having upon the counties within our bounds. Four of them have already "gone dry," the other two not yet having voted on the question. "Not what we receive, but what we give strengthens us." In nothing is this more evident than

in the Temperance cause. All who have put money and effort in this battle "for God and Home and Native Land," are more than satisfied with the results. And again we could not do justice to this subject without making due reference to our christian women and their work in the Temeperance cause. While we know the ballot has decided the contest, yet the prayers of our mothers, sisters and wives have decided a number of the ballots. Let us commend them for the good work they have already done, and pray and labor with them in that which is yet to be done.

And finally, we consider it the duty of every Baptist minister as well as all other denominations to be united in the war against the rum traffic. It is not necessary to offer an excuse for preaching against any kind of evil.

H. J. FRY,
W. D. TURNER,
JNO. L. GRAY, SR., } Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUSTENTATION.

We find that little has been done by our churches for indigent and infirm ministers and their families. For these time-worn veterans who are calling on us for help the amount contributed by this Association is merely nominal. We recommend that an appeal be made in behalf of these soldiers of the Cross by every pastor in the Association, and that a collection be taken quarterly for this specified object and sent to the Convention Board to be used for the relief of the needy ones.

Respectfully submitted.

T. J. WOODWARD, Chairman.

Special Notice.

Are you clerk of your church? If you are, will you not take pains in preparing your next Associational Letter so that it may show every cent that has been contributed during the year by or through your church, and what the contributions are for? Also, give Sunday School statistics; the value of your church property and its seating capacity. Please attend to this so that the awkward-looking blanks which follow the names of some of the churches in the table of these minutes will not appear next year. Don't neglect this.

FRANK C. McGHEE, Clerk.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

L. E. HALL, Shubuta, Miss.
WILSON WEST, Waynesboro, Miss
CHAS. BUSBY, Waynesboro, Miss.
S. O. Y. RAY, Enterprise, Miss.
J. W. BOZEMAN, D. D., Meridian.
J. T. BARRETT, Ellisville, Miss.
W. A. McCOMB, Estabutchie, Miss.
W. D. WATSON, Waynesboro, Miss.
W. D. NORTHRUP, Quitman, Miss.
J. E. STEINWINDER, Laurel, Miss.

FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance report the following amounts as sent by the churches for the purposes stated:

Associational Purposes	$ 34 10
State Missions	14 60
Home Missions	6 05
Foreign Missions	7 20
Sustentation	2 50
Total	$ 64 45

The money has been turned over to the Clerk.

M. W. BUCKLEY, } Committee.
W. Z. WEST. }

The report of the Committee on the Churches is embraced in the statistical table. In view of the fact that the letters from some of the churches do not give full statistics, the committee recommend that the clerks of the churches pay particular attention to this matter in writing up the Associational letters.

REPORT OF CLERK AND TREASURER.

DR.

To Amount Recived from Finance Committee	$ 64 45

CR.

By amount turned over to J. B. Gambrell	$ 30 35	
By amount on Hand for Minutes, Postage, &c.,	34 10	
		$ 64 45

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. The name of this body shall be the CHICKASAHAY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Art. 2. Its object shall be the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom, by the concentration of Christian labor; the inculcation of Bible Truth, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse among the churches.

Art. 3. Members of the Association may be of two classes, viz: delegates and messengers, the first class only having the right to vote, and to produce evidence of their appointment by the churches which they propose to represent before being entitled to seats.

Art. 4. Each church belonging to the Association shall be entitled to two delegates until its membership shall exceed fifty, and an additional delegate for each fifty members thereafter; provided, that ministers who are members of any such churches, but supply other pulpits, may be appointed as additional delegates above the regular quota.

Art. 5. The Association shall only have the power of an advisory council, and shall in no wise infringe upon the rights or independence of the churches.

Art. 6. No queries shall be considered by the Association unless regularly sent up through the churches; nor shall difficulties between the churches be discussed until other methods of settlement have been tried without avail.

Art. 7. The Association shall meet annually, as may be agreed upon, and, after enrolling the names of delegates, proceed by ballot to the election of a moderator and a clerk, who shall be ex-officio treasurer of the Association.

Art. 8. The duties of the various officers shall be similar to those of all deliberative bodies, and Mell's Parliamentary Manual shall be the basis of all decisions of order.

Art. 9. Churches holding the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, may become members of this Association, by a unanimous vote; and letters of dismission may be obtained, without assigning a reason therefor, by the concurrence of a majority, while the Association claims the right of withdrawing from such churches as it shall deem heterodox or disorderly.

Art. 10. This Constitution may be altered, or amended, at any annual meeting of the Association, by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates present; provided, the proposed alteration, or amendment, shall have been submitted at the session immediately preceeding.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in power and glory.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the old Testament and new, were written by the inspiration of God; and are the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, of total depravity, and of man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4. We believe that God chose His people, in Christ Jesus, before the foundation of the world, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth; and He has commanded it to be preached to every creature, therefore all are required to obey.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and the only evi-

dence of justification; and that all believers will abound therein from a principle of love.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust; the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is composed of faithful persons only, who have covenanted to keep up a discipline agreeable to the New Testament.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law-giver of his Church, and that the government is with the Church, each member having equal right therein.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of the Church, and are to be continued until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

12. We believe that immersion alone is Baptism, and can be administered only by those duly set apart by the Church; and that believers in Christ only, are the proper subjects of the ordinance.

13. We believe that regular baptised believers, only, have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. All meetings of this Association shall be opened with prayer, and closed by praise or benediction.

2. The officers of the Association shall hold their positions until successors are chosen.

3. The Moderator shall preside, or some brother whom he may designate while speaking, and shall preserve order; his decisions being final, unless an appeal is immediately made to the body.

4. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise and address the moderator.

5. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under discussion, or use personal reflections.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be put to a vote, unless withdrawn bp the mover.

7. After allowing due time for debate, all questions taken up shall be disposed of before any other motion can be entertained.

8. No member shall speak more than once upon the same subject without permission of the Association; nor shall any practice be tolerated which interrupts speaking.

9. Members shall use the term brother, when speaking of each other, and shall be rebuked by the moderator tor violation of these rules.

10. These rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches.	Post Office	Pastors.	Number Baptized.	Received by Letter	Restored.	Dismiss'd by Letter	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Members.	S. School Scholars.	S. Officers and T.	Contributions. Pastor's Salary.	State Missions.	Home Miss'ns.	Foreign Missions.	Church Expenses.	S. School Expenses.	Miscellaneous.	Total Contributions.
Meridian	Meridian	J. W. Bozeman.	21	38	1	16		3	265	218	20	$1500 00	$188 65	$ 30 00	$ 75 00	$1200 00	$ 92 74	$ 221 15	$3307 54
Enterprise	Enterprise	L. E. Hall	12	2	1	10		2	67	35	6	168 00	32 60	12 00		104 00	31 00	36 00	383 60
Quitman	Quitman	G. Gay					2		39	35	5	81 35				164 35	5 00	7 50	258 20
De Soto	De Soto	W. D. Northrop		1		7		2	21										
Shubuta	Shubuta	L. E. Hall	3	6		5	1		91	63	8	300 00	39 95	26 00				130 50	496 45
Salem	Waynesboro	W. West	9	13		3	1		123	40	7	80 30				12 00	7 00		99 30
Clear Creek	Shubuta	J. M. Phillips	11	4	3	4	3		73			50 00	5 00		3 50			62 00	120 50
Yellow Cr'k.	Waynesboro	W. D. Watson	4	4	15		4		60									2 40	2 40
Concord	Shubuta	Not Repr'sent'd							*43										
New Hope	Tokio	T. E. Tucker	1	2		2			25			75 00						18 00	93 00
Buckatunna	Buckatunna	J. M. Phillips				6			18	20		75 00						1 50	76 50
State Line	State Line	S. O. Y. Ray				13		4	64	25	2	50 00					8 00		58 00
Heidelberg	Heidelberg	J. M. Phillips	4	1		3		1	27			100 00	12 50	5 00	5 00	220 50		61 00	404 00
Sandersville	Sandersville	S. O. Y. Ray	7	5		5	2		36						2 20			2 00	4 20
Ellisville	Ellisville	J. T. Barrett	18	14	1	10			84	150	3					92 90	15 00	20 00	127 90
Estabutchie	Estabutchie	S. O. Y. Ray	10	3			1		23				10 50		1 65	4 50		1 60	18 25
Hattiesbnrg	Hattiesburg	S. O. Y. Ray	2	4					39	30	6		20 00						20 00
Augusta	Augusta	S. O. Y. Ray							21	25	5	100 00	12 50	2 25	2 25	6 05		6 25	129 30
Vossburg	Vossburg	S. O. Y. Ray	2	5		2			14				14 30			275 00			289 30
Laurel	Laurel	S. O. Y. Ray							23										
Fairfield	Eucutta		8		1	8	1		124				5 00					3 00	3 00
Mt. Zion	Buckatunna	T. E. Tucker	7			10			53				9 10					2 50	7 50
Bethlehem	Lauderdale	Not Repr'sent'd							*9									2 00	11 10
Big Creek	Winchester	Not Repr'sen t'd																	
			119	102	22	104	15	12	1339	641	62	$2579 65	$350 10	$ 75 25	$ 89 60	$2079 30	$ 158 74	$ 577 40	$5910 04

*Number of Members taken from last year's minutes.

STATISTICAL TABLE.